

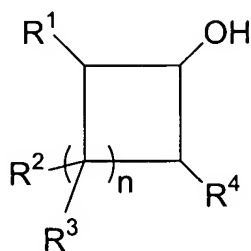
**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (Original): A method for producing carboxylic acid, which comprises reacting an oily alicyclic alcohol or an oily alicyclic ketone with an aqueous hydrogen peroxide in the presence of a catalyst containing a metal compound belonging to Group 6 of the Periodic Table in a heterogeneous solution system.

2 (Original): The method for producing carboxylic acid according to claim 1, wherein the metal compound belonging to Group 6 of the Periodic Table is a metal compound of at least one member selected from chromium, molybdenum and tungsten.

3 (Currently Amended): The method for producing carboxylic acid according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the alicyclic alcohol is a compound represented by the following formula (1):

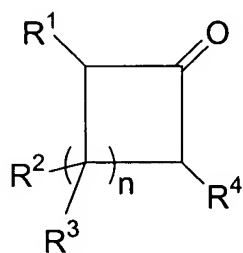


(1)

wherein n is an integer of 1 to 18; and R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, an alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, a

cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an acyl group or an acyloxy group, or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$ ,  $R^1$  and  $R^3$ ,  $R^1$  and  $R^4$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^4$  or  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  may be taken together to form a carbon ring which may be substituted with an alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, a carboxyl group or a halogen atom.

4 (Currently Amended): The method for producing carboxylic acid according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the alicyclic ketone is a compound represented by the following formula (2)



(2)

wherein  $n$  is an integer of 1 to 18; and  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, an alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an acyl group or an acyloxy group, or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$ ,  $R^1$  and  $R^3$ ,  $R^1$  and  $R^4$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^4$  or  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  may be taken together to form a carbon ring which may be substituted with an alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, a carboxyl group or a halogen atom.

5 (Currently Amended): The method for producing carboxylic acid according to ~~any~~  
~~one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 4, wherein the carboxylic acid is glutaric acid, adipic acid, ~~or~~ pimelic acid,  
pimelic acid or suberic acid.